

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to make it plain that the first connection member is electrically conductive.

The advantage of having our member 8, 12 electrically conductive, is that it suppresses electrical crosstalk between the transmitter and receiver sections.

The background of this is explained on page 16, line 19, to page 20, line 6 of our specification.

Page 17, line 14 to page 18, line 5, thus states this in greater detail.

Also, as is pointed out at the top of page 18, the ability to ground the member 8 keeps the electrical potential or level of the member 8 stable. This enhances the effect of the openings 8c to suppress electromagnetic noise.

None of this is suggested by, or obvious from JIANG et al. JIANG's optical block 402 is the part that most closely corresponds to our member 8 or 12. JIANG says nothing about the material of optical block 402; but we can look to JIANG et al.'s optical block 102, in a different embodiment, to determine what a person of ordinary skill in this art would find to be suggested for the material of optical block 402. As is pointed out in JIANG et al. in connection with optical block 102, this block must be light-transmissive and, hence by definition, would be electrically non-conductive. The block 402 of course need not be

optically conductive; but the fact that JIANG et al. use the same term "optical block" for 102 and 402 suggests using the same material for both. Also, in the drawings of JIANG et al., both the optical block 102 and the optical block 402 are shown with the widely spaced crosshatch lines that indicate transparent or plastic material. In any event, a person of ordinary skill in the art would not find any suggestion in JIANG et al. to use metal for optical block 402.

The patent to JEWELL et al. may teach the feature from which it was applied; but as JEWELL et al. otherwise does nothing to improve the rejection on JIANG et al., it is not believed that JEWELL et al. need be discussed in further detail at the present time.

As the claims as amended bring out these distinctions with ample particularity, it is believed that they are all patentable, and reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional
fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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